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Author
DISQUISITION

ON THE

EVILS OF USING TOBACCO,

AND THE NECESSITY OF

IMMEDIATE AND ENTIRE REFORMATION.

Delivered before the Fall River Lyceum, on the Evening of June 4th 1833, and
before the Congregation to whom the Author statedly ministers, on the
Evening of October 27th, 1833.

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DISQUISITION.

In this age of benevolent action, when much is being done to drive away the darkness and delusions of many generations ; and to diffuse light and truth through the earth ; it excites the liveliest joy in every philanthropic bosom to witness the triumphant results already achieved. Recent efforts to banish the use of intoxicating drinks, have brought well nigh half the civilized world to a solemn pause : and the work of reformation in this matter of spirit-drinking has gone so far, and is yet making such sure progress, that many are rejoicing in the lively hope that the day is nigh, even at the doors, when drunkenness, with her burning legion of evils, will cease from the earth ; and the gospel of the grace of God will have free course and be glorified, and the whole family of man become temperate, holy and happy. The God of our salvation hasten that day apace ; that our eyes may see it, and rejoice and be glad in it, before we go to the grave.

But ere that day shall fully come, there is much land to be possessed. Many a battle must yet be fought, — many a victory must yet be won. Much light must yet be poured forth, — much darkness must yet be driven away. The world is not yet half reformed. The majority in the best portions of the earth — in this country even — are on the side of free indulgence in every thing that pleases the appetite.

Intemperance in the use of intoxicating drinks, — and intemperance in the use of *tobacco*, in the several forms of *smoking*, *snuffing* and *chewing* ; together with several other evils, which I need not here specify, are even now predominant.

By intemperance in the use of tobacco, I mean *all* use of this drug except that which is under the direction of enlightened, judicious medical advice. With this exception, *entire abstinence* from this narcotic substance constitutes the only safe and genuine temperance. This principle has been adopted extensively, in its application to intoxicating drinks ; but before it shall be universally adopted in that application, it must be applied, and applied universally, to the *quid*, and the *pipe*, and the *snuff-box*. Rum-drinking will not cease, till

tobacco-chewing, and tobacco-smoking, and snuff-taking, shall cease. Though all who are attached to the quid, the pipe, or the snuff-box, are not attached to the bottle; yet a vast multitude become attached to the bottle, and this attachment is continued and increased, through the poisonous, bewitching, and debasing influence of tobacco.

Moreover, the use of tobacco involves a train of evils, superadded to its influence in perpetuating drunkenness, which cries aloud for immediate and universal reformation. It is my present purpose to consider these evils. And I wish to premise that, in this consideration, I shall urge; that it is the duty and privilege of every friend of humanity — of every lover of his country — of every Christian — and of every minister of Christ, to *abstain*, himself, *immediately*, and *forever*, from *all* use of tobacco, whether by *chewing*, *smoking*, or *snuffing*, except it be *medicinally*; and to use the whole weight of his influence and example to persuade others — and especially the young men and maidens of this nation — to practice entire abstinence.

I am fully aware that the topic which I have selected, the position which I lay down, and the purpose at which I aim, are not popular. But what then? Did Clarkson and Wilberforce abandon the cause of the enslaved African, when they found that abolition was unpopular in the British Senate? Did Columbus abandon his purpose of attempting to discover a new world, when he perceived that the noble project of his noble soul was unpopular, with princes and people, learned and ignorant? Did Jesus Christ abandon his purpose to redeem a world lying in wickedness, when it became manifest that his doctrines, and the pure benevolence of his holy soul, were unpopular. And has it ever been *seemly* for one of his true and faithful disciples to abandon the cause of human happiness, and the soul's everlasting salvation, because the work of saving mercy is unpopular?

The theme of our present consideration, is doubtless unpopular. But we *should* not, we *will* not, therefore abandon the purpose of exposing the evils of smoking, and chewing, and snuffing, that dirty weed, which is so hostile to animal life, and so offensive to every creature on earth, that no living being but man — and a loathsome worm, called the tobacco-worm — will taste, or touch, or handle it.*

Though it be unpopular to expose the evils of using tobacco; these evils are so appalling, it will not do to slumber over them longer. We must look at them; we must lay them open — we must raise our voice against them; (we would gladly raise it so high that it should reach every family in the nation.) Yes, we must cry aloud and spare not; or give up our claim to patriotism, and benevolence.

* It has recently been affirmed that there is a dirty goat in South America which will eat this dirty plant.

In approaching this subject, I am not unmindful of the pertinacity with which men adhere to old habits. Dr. Rush speaks of a venerable clergyman who closed a long sermon, in which he had controverted what he supposed an heretical opinion, with these words: "I tell you — I tell you, my brethren, I tell you again, that an *old error* is better than a *new truth*." There are few who will assent to this proposition in plain terms; but there are thousands upon thousands, who act up to the very letter of it, constantly. — The history of man is extensively a history of folly, delusion, and sin.

No error has been so absurd as not to find advocates — no habit has been so foolish, or so deadly, as not to find martyrs. But of all the delusions which have prevailed among civilized men, there have been few — perhaps none, but that of intoxication — so disgusting, so inexcusable, so destructive to health, and wealth, and life, as the habit which we now ask you to consider.

It will be borne in mind that my position is this; it is the bounden duty and privilege of every man and every woman to *abstain, immediately, and forever, from all use of tobacco*, whether by *chewing, smoking, or snuffing* except it be as a medicine. This position I maintain,

I. From a consideration of the *history* of this loathsome weed. The tobacco plant is a native of America. It was unknown in Europe until sometime after the discovery of America, by Columbus. It was first carried to Europe by Sir Francis Drake, about the year 1560, less than three hundred years ago. The natives of this continent called it *petun*; the natives of the islands called it *yoli*. The Spaniards gave it the name of *tobacco*, from *tobaco*, a province of Yucatan in Mexico, where they first found it, and first learned its use. Its botanic name is *Nicotiana*, which it received from John Nicot, then Ambassador from Francis II. to Portugal, who brought it from Lisbon, and presented some of it to the Queen Catharine de Medicis, and to the Grand Prior of the house of Lorraine; whence it was sometimes called the Queen's herb, and the Grand Prior's herb.

The practice of smoking it in England, was introduced by Sir Walter Raleigh, about the year 1584.

The cultivation of it is not uncommon in various parts of the globe; but the seat of its most extensive culture is Virginia and Maryland, in this country. In England its cultivation was forbidden — and we believe is still forbidden — on penalty of forfeiting forty shillings for every rod of ground planted with it.

James I. wrote a treatise against the use of it, which he called his "Counterblast to Tobacco." Pope Urban VIII. issued a Bull, to ex-

communicate all who used tobacco in the churches. The civil power in Russia, Turkey, and Persia, was early arrayed against it. The King of Denmark, who wrote a treatise against tobacco, observes that "merchants often lay it in bog-houses, that, becoming impregnated with the volatile salts of the excrements, it may be rendered brisker, stronger, and more fœtid." And it is a notorious fact, that, in manufacturing tobacco, it is frequently sprinkled and moistened with stale urine.

The use of tobacco never was general in Europe; and within the last fifty or one hundred years, it has been banished from all the polite circles of that part of the world. John Adams, the former President of the United States, speaking of his own use of tobacco, and referring to his residence in Europe, says: "Twice I gave up the use of it; once when Minister at the Court of Hague; and afterwards when Minister at the Court of London; *for no such offensive practice is seen there.*"

But although the cultivation of tobacco has been forbidden in many countries of Europe; and though the manufacture of it is frequently attended with circumstances so disgusting and offensive, that the modesty of this paper will not permit me to detail them,—and though the use of it is abandoned by all the respectable and polished circles of Europe; yet in this nation, and among the lower orders abroad, tobacco has triumphed: and the only hope of expelling it from our land, lies in enlisting against it the power of enlightened public opinion—a mightier power than any eastern despot wields.

Now from this brief sketch of the history of tobacco, it appears that it was unknown to all the civilized world, till within three hundred years; and that even now, all the polished and enlightened portion of community abroad—and we add, a very respectable portion at home—have no fellowship with the filthy weed. And can any man justify himself in the daily use of a disgusting plant, against the practice, opinion, and remonstrances of so large a portion of the civilized world? Can he be discharging the obligations of his duty, and enjoying the full amount of his privilege, while he suffers himself to be a bond-slave to his quid, his pipe, or his snuff-box? Either an important article of the vegetable kingdom, lay hid from the civilized world nearly six thousand years; or since its discovery, the lovers of tobacco have formed an entirely erroneous opinion of its properties. In the sequel, I trust it will appear, that so far from possessing *valuable* properties, it is one of the most *noxious* weeds that grows; that, as an article of medicine, it possesses scarcely a redeeming quality; and that, though it was not made in vain, if the world had remained

ignorant of it six thousand years longer, no cause of regret would have been occasioned.

I maintain the position I have laid down,

II. From a consideration of the ruinous effects of tobacco upon the *health* and *constitution* of men.

In considering this point, let us examine the *properties* of this weed, — the prominent *diseases* which the use of it induces, — and the *experience* of unprejudiced observers. The *properties* of tobacco are decidedly *poisonous*. In proof of this assertion, I appeal to ample and unquestionable authority.

Professor Hitchcock says, “I group *alcohol*, *opium* and *tobacco* together, as alike to be rejected; because they agree in being *poisonous* in their natures.” “In popular language,” says he, “*alcohol* is classed among the stimulants, and *opium* and *tobacco* among the narcotics, whose ultimate effect upon the animal system is to produce stupor and insensibility.” He says, “Most of the powerful vegetable poisons, such as hen-bane, hemlock, thorn-apple, prussic acid, deadly night-shade, fox-glove and poison sumach, have an effect on the animal system scarcely to be distinguished from that of *opium* and *tobacco*. They impair the organs of digestion, and may bring on fatuity, palsy, delirium, or apoplexy.” He says, “In those not accustomed to it, *tobacco* excites nausea, vomiting, dizziness, indigestion, mental dejection, and in short, the whole train of *nervous* complaints.”

Dr. Rees, in his *Cyclopaedia*, says; “A drop or two of the chemical oil of tobacco, being put upon the tongue of a cat, produces violent convulsions, and death itself in the space of a minute.”

Dr. Hossack classes *tobacco* with *opium*, *ether*, *mercury*, and other articles of the *materia medica*. He calls tobacco a “*fashionable poison*,” in the various forms in which that narcotic is employed. He says, “The great increase of *dispepsia*; the late alarming frequency of *apoplexy*, *palsy*, *epilepsy*, and other diseases of the *nervous system*; is attributable, in part, to the use of tobacco.”

Dr. Waterhouse says that Linnæus, in his natural arrangement, has placed tobacco in the class *Luridæ* — which signifies pale, ghastly, livid, dismal and fatal. “To the same ominous class,” he adds, “belong fox-glove, hen-bane, deadly night-shade, lobelia, and another poisonous plant, bearing the tremendous name *Atropa*, one of the furies.” He says, “When tobacco is taken into the stomach for the first time, it creates nausea and extreme disgust. If swallowed, it excites violent convulsions of the stomach and of the bowels, to eject the poison either upward or downward. If it be not very speedily and entirely ejected, it produces great anxiety, vertigo, faintness, and

prostration of all the senses; and, in some instances, death has followed." The oil of this plant, he adds, is one of the strongest vegetable poisons, insomuch that we know of no animal that can resist its mortal effects. Moreover, says Dr. Waterhouse, after a long and honorable course of practice, "I never observed so many pallid faces, and so many marks of declining health; nor ever knew so many hectic habits, and consumptive affections, as of late years; and I trace this alarming inroad on young constitutions, *principally* to the pernicious custom of smoking cigars."

Professor Graham says, "Tobacco is one of the most *powerful* and *deadly* poisons in the vegetable kingdom." "Its effects on the living tissues of the animal system," he adds, "are always to destroy life; as the experiments made on pigeons, cats and other animals abundantly prove."

The Editors of the Journal of Health say, "Tobacco is in fact an absolute poison. A very moderate quantity introduced into the system, even applying the moistened leaves to the stomach, has been known very suddenly to extinguish life. In whatever form it may be employed, a portion of the active principles of tobacco, mixed with the saliva, invariably finds its way to the stomach, and disturbs or impairs the functions of that organ. Hence most, if not all, who are accustomed to the use of tobacco, labor under dyspeptic symptoms. Our advice is to desist immediately and entirely from the use of tobacco in every form, and in any quantity, however small. A reform, to be efficacious, must be entire and complete."

Dr. Warren says, "The common belief that tobacco is beneficial to the teeth, is entirely erroneous; on the contrary, by its poisonous and relaxing qualities, it is positively injurious." Says another physician, "Though snuff has been prescribed for the headache, catarrh, and some species of ophthalmia, and sometimes with good effect; yet in all cases where its use is *continued*, it not only fails of its medical effect, but commits great ravages on the whole nervous system, superinducing hypochondria, tremors, a thickening of the voice, and premature decay of all the intellectual powers."

As a diuretic, Dr. Fowler and others have found it in some cases to be valuable. Its narcotic properties have sometimes assuaged the toothache; but it always hastens the destruction of the teeth. But of all substances in pharmacy, there seems to be a general agreement among medical writers, that tobacco, though occasionally beneficial, is the most unmanageable, and used with the least confidence.

A multitude of cases, confirming these views, have actually occurred; two or three of which I will cite. A clergyman, who commenced

ed the use of tobacco in youth, says, "that no very injurious consequences were experienced till he entered the ministry, when his system began to feel its dreadful effects. His voice, his appetite and his strength failed; and he was sorely afflicted with sickness at the stomach, indigestion, emaciation, melancholy, and a prostration of the whole nervous system. All this, says he, I attribute to the pernicious habit of smoking and chewing tobacco." At length he abandoned the quid and the pipe. His voice, appetite and strength were soon restored; all aches subsided, and in a little time general health was enjoyed.

Another clergyman writes, "I thank God, and I thank you, for your advice to abandon smoking; my strength has doubled since I relinquished this abominable practice."

"A respectable gentleman in middle life, who commenced chewing tobacco at the age of eighteen, was long afflicted with depression of spirits, great emaciation, and the usual dyspeptic symptoms. All attempts to relieve him were fruitless, till he was persuaded to dispense with his quid. Immediately his spirits revived, and he soon regained his health."*

Cases of reform and cure are occurring by thousands, every year, all over the land. Let every lover of tobacco, who is afflicted with *dyspepsia*, and nervous maladies, *reform*, immediately and entirely; and let him adopt a simple and rational system of diet, regimen, and employment; and in nine cases out of ten, he may hope to enjoy good health, and live long to bless the world.

The conclusion from all this evidence is established, that tobacco is an *active poison*; that its constant use induces the most distressing and fatal diseases; and that, as a medicine, it is rarely needful, and never used, even *medicinally*, with entire confidence. This loathsome weed, then, should not be used, even *medicinally*, except in extreme cases, and then in the hands of a skillful physician. For every man—and especially for every boy, who has hardly entered his teens—to take this poison into his own hands, and determine for himself how much he will use, is as preposterous, as if he were to take upon himself to deal out arsenic, corrosive sublimate, or calomel.

No man can devote himself to the pipe, the quid, or the snuff-box, without certain injury to his health and constitution. He may not perceive the injury at once, on account of immediate exhilaration; but complicated chronic complaints will creep upon him apace, making life a burden, and issuing in premature dissolution. And just so

* Extracts in point might here be given from numerous letters received by the Author, since the publication of the first edition; but it is unnecessary."

certain as it is our duty to do no murder, — to use all lawful means to preserve our lives, and the lives of others; as certain is it our duty and our privilege to practice *entire abstinence* from the use of tobacco.

I maintain the position I have laid down,

III. From the consideration of the ruinous effects of tobacco upon the *intellect*.

Here, again, let Professor Hitchcock speak. Says he, "Intoxicating drinks, opium and tobacco, exert a pernicious influence upon the intellect. They tend directly to debilitate the organs; and we cannot take a more effectual course to cloud the understanding, weaken the memory, unfix the attention, and confuse all the mental operations, than by thus entailing upon ourselves the whole hateful train of nervous maladies. These can bow down to the earth an intellect of giant strength, and make it grind in bondage, like Sampson shorn of his locks and deprived of his vision. The use of tobacco may seem to soothe the feelings, and quicken the operations of the mind; but to what purpose is it that the machine is furiously running and buzzing after the balance wheel is taken off?"

The late Governor Sullivan, speaking of the use of tobacco, says, "It has never failed to render me dull and heavy, to interrupt my usual alertness of thought, and to weaken the powers of my mind in analyzing subjects and defining ideas."

The actual loss of *intellectual* power, which tobacco has hitherto occasioned, and is still causing, in this Christian nation, is immense. How immense, it is impossible accurately to calculate. Many a man who might have been a giant, has not risen above mediocrity; and many a man who might have been respectable and useful, has sunk into obscurity, and buried his talents in the earth. This is a consideration of deepest interest to every philanthropist, patriot, and Christian in the land, and especially to all our youth. We live at a time, and under circumstances, which call for the exertion of all our intellectual strength, cultivated, improved, and sanctified, to the highest measure of possibility. Error, ignorance, and sin, must be met and vanquished; they must be met and vanquished by light and love. The eye of angels is upon us, — the eye of God is upon us, — and shall we fetter, and palsy, and ruin our intellectual capabilities, for the paltry pleasure of using one of the most poisonous, loathsome, and destructive weeds found in the whole vegetable kingdom? Let us rather shake off this abominable practice, and rise, as individuals and as a nation, in all our intellectual potency, — and let us go forth from day to day, to the noble purposes of our destiny, untrammelled by the quid, or the pipe, or the snuff-box; and before another generation shall lie down in the grave, our efforts and our example may cause the light of human

science, and the light of civil and religious liberty, and the light of Bible truth, to blaze through all our vallies, and over all our hills, from Greenland to Cape Horn,—and with a lustre that shall illumine the world.

I maintain my position,

IV. From a consideration of the ruinous effects of tobacco upon public and private *morals*.

The ruinous effects of tobacco upon public and private morals, are seen in the idle, sauntering habits, which the use of it engenders,—in the benumbing, grovelling, stupid, sensations which it induces,—but especially in perpetuating and extending the practice of using intoxicating drinks.

Governor Sullivan has truly said, “that the tobacco pipe excites a demand for an extraordinary quantity of some beverage to supply the waste of glandular secretion, in proportion to the expense of saliva; and ardent spirits are the common substitutes; and the smoker is often reduced to a state of dram drinking, and finishes his life as a sot.”

Dr. Agnew has truly said, that “the use of the pipe leads to the immoderate use of ardent spirits.”

Dr. Rush has truly said, “that smoking and chewing tobacco, by rendering water and other simple liquors insipid to the taste, dispose very much to the stronger stimulus of ardent spirits; hence [says he] the practice of smoking cigars, has been followed by the use of brandy and water as common drink.”

A writer in the *Genius of Temperance*, says that his practice of smoking and chewing the filthy weed, “produced a continual thirst for stimulating drinks; and this tormenting thirst [says he] led me into the habit of drinking ale, porter, brandy, and other kinds of spirit, even to the extent, at times, of partial intoxication” He adds, “I reformed; and after I had subdued this appetite for tobacco, I lost all desire for stimulating drinks.”

Now the fact that some chew, and smoke, and snuff without becoming sots, proves nothing against the general principle, that it is the natural tendency of using tobacco to promote intoxication. Probably *one tenth*, at least, of all the drunkards annually made in the nation, and throughout the world, are made drunkards through the use of tobacco.* If thirty thousand drunkards are made annually in the United States, three thousand must be charged to the use of tobacco. If thirty thousand drunkards die annually, in the United States, three

* Edward C. Delevan, Esq., Secretary of the New York State Temperance Society, says, in a letter just received, — “The subject of your Essay is one of immense importance to the world and to the temperance cause. The use of this vile weed has been the medium of forming the appetite for strong drink, and ultimately destroying thousands of the most promising youth of our country. You will hardly ever meet

thousand of these deaths must be charged to the use of tobacco. If twenty thousand criminals are sentenced to our penitentiaries in twenty years, through the influence of strong drink, two thousand must be charged to the use of tobacco. If fifty-six millions of gallons of ardent spirits have been annually consumed in this country, five and a half millions must be charged to the use of tobacco. And of all the Sabbath-breaking, profanity, quarrelling, and crime of every description, caused by the use of intoxicating drink; a tithe must be charged to the use of tobacco. And what friend of good morals, — what friend of man, — what friend of his country, — what friend of Christ and true religion, — and especially, what friend of the temperance cause, — can look at these results with the eye of candor and compassion for his fellow-men, and then not deliberately resolve that he will never chew another quid, nor smoke another whiff, nor snuff another pinch of the dirty weed?

I maintain my position,

V. From a consideration of the amazing *waste of property*, which the use of tobacco involves. On this point I have been unable to obtain the means for making out a perfectly accurate statistical result. I can only approximate a definite calculation. This approximation, however, will serve all the purposes of this argument.

We will examine *three items*: the *cost* of the article, — the *time* wasted by the use of it, — and the *pauperism* it occasions. From a statement lately furnished me from the Treasury department of our National Government, exhibiting the quantity and value of cigars, and snuff, exported from and imported into the United States, annually, from 1st October, 1820, to 30th September, 1832, it appears that the value of cigars imported into the United States in 1821, was \$113,601. In 1827 it was \$174,931. In 1832 it was \$473,134; while from the the same document it appears that the value of cigars exported, in each of those years, was about one quarter the value of imports.

Hence it appears that, in 1832, about half a million of dollars were paid for imported cigars; while in 1821, only \$113,601 were paid; being more than a fourfold increase in eleven years. Whether there has been a corresponding increase in the value of domestic cigars consumed, I have no means of determining. From the fact of so prodigious an increase of imported cigars, I am led to fear that the evil

with an intemperate person without finding him addicted to the use of tobacco. The public only want light on this important subject, to act. Your able and convincing Disquisition will be the means of doing much good. I hope funds will be provided to furnish a copy to each clergyman in the United States. Send me one thousand copies of the second edition, as soon as it is from the press."

of cigar smoking has increased in this country within ten years, far more rapidly than the increase of population. From this treasury document, it appears also, that in 1824, the value of unmanufactured tobacco exported from the United States, was \$4,855,566. Of manufactured tobacco, the value was 2,477,990. Of snuff, the value was 203,789.

Making a total of . . . \$7,537,345.

In 1832, the value of unmanufactured tobacco exported, was \$5,999,769.
 Of manufactured tobacco, 3,456,071.
 Of snuff, 205,771

Making a total of . . . \$9,751,611,
 for 1832, and an increase from the year 1824, of \$2,214,266.

Whether the quantity consumed in this country equals the quantity exported, or exceeds that quantity, I have no data enabling me to give a definite answer. But from the fact that large quantities of tobacco are raised in various other parts of the world, for foreign consumption; and from the fact that the people of this country are, above all other people under the sun, a chewing, smoking, snuffing people; I have very little doubt that the amount used in this country is double the amount exported. If so, the sum total paid annually, for this vile weed, in this Christian country, is \$19,503,222. But as I wish in this examination, to put the estimate *below* rather than *above* the truth, I will set down the value of the tobacco, cigars, and snuff, consumed annually in this nation, as equal to the amount exported; that is, in round numbers, 10,000,000 of dollars.

That this is a very *low* estimate, will appear by another conclusive calculation.

According to the census of 1830, the population of the United States, over twenty years of age, is about six millions. Suppose one in four of our adult population, use tobacco in some form; (and this is a very moderate supposition,) it gives one million, five hundred thousand: and suppose one in twelve of those who have not reached the age of twenty, use it; it gives five hundred thousand more: making a total of two millions — or one sixth of our population — who use tobacco in some form.

Now suppose the expense to the consumers of this noxious drug, varies according to the quantity, and mode of using it. The expense to some is two dollars a year, to some it is five, and to others ten,

twenty, and even fifty dollars a year. A laboring man, of my acquaintance, who did not use tobacco extravagantly, and only by chewing, told me that it cost him five dollars a year. A young lady of my acquaintance, says her snuff costs eight dollars a year. If a man pay three cents a day for cigars, it amounts to ten dollars, ninety-five cents a year. If he pay six cents, it amounts to twenty-one dollars, ninety cents a year. If he pay twelve and a half cents, it amounts to forty-four dollars, sixty-two cents a year.

It is the opinion of good judges, that very many, who smoke freely and use Spanish cigars, pay more than fifty dollars a year for this foolish gratification.

King James, in his "Counterblast," says, "Some of the gentry of this land, bestow three, some four hundred pounds a year, upon this precious stink."

It will certainly be a moderate calculation to put down one quarter of the consumers at two dollars a year, — one quarter at five, — one quarter at eight, — and one quarter at ten dollars a year. Then the several items will stand thus: —

Half a million at two dollars, is	- - - - -	\$1,000,000.
Half a million at five dollars, is	- - - - -	2,500,000.
Half a million at eight dollars, is	- - - - -	4,000,000.
Half a million at ten dollars, is	- - - - -	5,000,000.

Total, \$12,500,000.

Again: the amount of tobacco annually consumed in France, as appears from authentic documents, is about seven millions of pounds; which is about one pound to every four persons. The amount annually consumed in England, as appears from authentic documents, is about seventeen millions; which is about one pound to every man, woman and child, in that nation.* In the United States, probably there are eight times as much used as in France, and three times as much as in England, in proportion to our population. If so, the quantity used in this country cannot fall short of thirty-five millions of pounds;† which, at thirty cents a pound, amounts to ten and a half millions of dollars; not including cigars and snuff, which cost half as much more; making the total sum fifteen and three fourths millions of dollars. And this enormous sum is doubtless *below* what the article actually costs the consumers.

* The tobacco imported and used for home consumption in Great Britain and Ireland in 1832, amounted to 20,313,651 pounds — the duty on which was 15,300,000 dollars.

† 1,765,000 pounds of tobacco passed up the Erie Canal in seven and a half months in 1834.

From these *three* results, we believe there cannot be a doubt that the actual expense of tobacco, in its various forms, to the consumers in this country, may safely be set down at *ten millions of dollars a year*.

The amount of *time* lost by the consumers of tobacco, is another item of no inconsiderable moment. Some spend two, three, and four hours a day, in this vile indulgence. To all who use the article, in any way, it occasions the loss of more or less time. If we put down the average amount at half an hour a day; and reckon the time thus lost at four cents an hour, it will amount — not reckoning Sabbaths — to six dollars, twenty-six cents a year, for each individual; which, for the whole company of consumers, is an amount of \$12,520,000.

The *pauperism* which tobacco occasions, is another fearful item. Multitudes who are scarcely able to procure the necessaries of life, will shift, by sacrificing health and comfort, to procure the daily *quantum sufficit* of tobacco. Many very poor families use tobacco, in all ways. Now suppose a poor family use twenty-five cents' worth of tobacco a week; it will amount to twelve dollars fifty cents a year, — and in fifty years, reckoning principal and interest, it will amount to three thousand five hundred and fifty-two dollars.

Just look at this tax for snuff and tobacco, in a single aspect more. Many think it will make *no* man the poorer, to pay six cents a day for this indulgence. It will make *every* man the poorer. Let any young mechanic, or farmer, or merchant, consume six and a quarter cents' worth of this drug a day — beginning at twenty years of age, and continuing until he is sixty years old — and the sum total, reckoning principal and interest, will amount, in these forty years, to three thousand five hundred and twenty-nine dollars, thirty-six cents.

If the *cost* of tobacco, — the *neglect of business* which it occasions, — the expense of the *pipes* and the *boxes*, and the various *apparatus* which the use of it involves, — and the *intoxication* to which it leads, — all be reckoned up, the amount of *pauperism* which this weed brings upon the nation, cannot be less than one quarter of the sum total of all our pauperism. And the sum total of the pauperism in this nation, has been shown, again and again, to be not less than twelve millions of dollars, annually. Hence the pauper tax, occasioned by the use of tobacco, may be set down at three millions of dollars, annually.

Here we have, then, the *expense* of tobacco, \$10,000,000.

The *time* lost by the use of it, - - - - 12,520,000.

The *pauper tax* which it occasions, - - - - 3,000,000.

Total, \$25,520,000.

To this sum should be added one-tenth of the waste of property, which strong drink occasions; inasmuch as one tenth of the rum-drinking must be charged to tobacco. Now, it has been estimated that the whole cost of strong drink used annually, in this country, amounts to one hundred and twenty-five millions of dollars; a tenth of which is twelve and a half millions of dollars. If this tithe be added to the above estimate, it will make the sum total thirty-eight and a half millions. But as I intend my estimates shall be *moderate*, I will say nothing of the waste of property which tobacco occasions in connection with strong drink. I will put down the sum total as above twenty-five millions of dollars.

Twenty-five millions of dollars, consumed by the use of tobacco, in this Christian nation, annually; and not a little of it by professors of religion, and ministers of the gospel, who are required by their Lord and Master to deny themselves,—to take up their cross,—to let their light shine before men, that they may see their good works, and glorify our Father in heaven. Nearly the whole of this twenty-five millions of dollars is a *dead loss* to the nation; yes, it is infinitely *worse* than a dead loss; it not only does no good, but it actually goes to make fools and beggars, idlers and sots,—to purchase dyspepsia, early graves and everlasting shame. And what would this vast amount of property accomplish, if saved and devoted to useful purposes.

Twenty-five millions of dollars annually, if applied to the improvement of agriculture, manufactures, and commerce, and to the advancement of the arts, sciences, and true religion, would accomplish everything for this nation, that the enlightened patriot and true Christian can ask for.

Twenty-five millions of dollars, annually, would soon furnish canals, and rail-roads, and all other desirable facilities for intercommunication throughout the nation. Twenty-five millions of dollars, annually, would sustain all our colleges, academies and other schools, and all the religious and benevolent institutions of this whole country. It would rear seminaries of learning in every State where they are needed; and it would plant a Sabbath school, with a sufficient library in every school district.

Twenty-five millions of dollars, annually, if applied judiciously to the emancipation and improvement of the colored people, would free us from the curse of slavery in less than ten years.

Twenty-five millions of dollars, annually, would send forth to the nations now perishing in heathen darkness, ten thousand missionaries, and five millions of tracts, every year, provided the men could be found.

Twenty-five millions of dollars, annually, would, in five years, furnish all the money necessary to carry into complete execution, that noble purpose of the American Bible Society, of giving a copy of the Bible, within a specified time, to every accessible family on the earth. And what friend of man is there among us, — what patriot is there, — what Christian is there, — who can look at these truths, and not make up his mind to abandon all use of tobacco, *forever*; and to exert the whole weight of his influence and example to persuade others to do the same?

I am aware, indeed, that it may be said, if the whole company of tobacco-chewers, smokers, and snuffers, should at once abandon all use of this weed, and thus withdraw their whole patronage, this twenty-five millions of dollars, which now gives wealth to many a man engaged in growing, manufacturing, and vending the poison, would be so much capital unemployed; and the means of living would be cut off from many a family, — and bankruptcy, and wretchedness would be the consequent portion of many an individual. This may be true. And it may be true, too, that the like consequences would follow the universal abandonment of intoxicating liquors. But what then? Shall one sixth part of the nation continue to use this poison, because, forsooth, the *producers* and *venders* of it will lose their profits if it be abandoned? Shall the *intellect*, and *health*, and *comfort*, and *wealth*, and *lives* of hundreds and thousands of our fellow citizens, be sacrificed yearly; and widows and orphans be multiplied by scores and fifties, in every section of this wide-spreading country; and one of the prominent auxiliaries of *intemperance*, — and consequently of *crime*, and *insanity*, and *eternal woe* — be cherished; and twenty-five millions of dollars be *wasted*, and worse than wasted; and all this, that the *producers* and *venders* may feed and fatten on the gains? This objection lies equally against the temperance reform, and every other reform where cupidity and avarice are involved.

As to the producers, it is affirmed on good authority, that hemp, and corn, and other useful articles may be substituted without loss, and even with advantage. As to the venders, their capital may all be profitably employed upon valuable merchandize, without damage. But if it were not so; where *health*, *life*, and *happiness* are involved, no good man can hesitate. The path of duty is plain. We are bound to walk in it, even though it run counter to the gains of those engaged in unlawful commerce.

I maintain my position,

VI. From a consideration of the *mortality* which tobacco occasions.

Some of my readers may be startled at this consideration. They may not have dreamed, even, that tobacco *kills* anybody. So insidious are the effects of this poison, and so insensible have the community been to its abominations, that very few have regarded the use of tobacco as the cause of swelling our bills of mortality. But though appalling, it is nevertheless true, that tobacco carries vast multitudes to the grave, all over our country, every year. Says Dr. Salmon, "I am confident more people have died of apoplexies, since the use of snuff in one year, than have died of that disease in an hundred years before; and most, if not all, whom I have observed to die, of late of that disease, were extreme and constant snuff-takers." The late Rev. Dr. Samuel Cooper, of Boston, by constant use of snuff, brought on a disorder of the head, which was thought to have ended his days. A very large quantity of hardened Scotch snuff was found, by a *post mortem* examination, between the external nose and the brain. The late Governor Sullivan, speaking of Governor Hancock, the early President of Congress, says, "Governor Hancock was an immoderate chewer of tobacco; but being a well-bred man, and a perfect gentleman, he, from a sense of decorum, refrained from spitting in company, or in well-dressed rooms. This produced the habit of swallowing the juice of the tobacco, the consequence of which was, his stomach became inactive, and a natural appetite seldom returned; the agreeable sensations of hunger could not be experienced but by the use of stimulants, to satisfy which he swallowed more food than his digestive powers could dispose of. This derangement in chyfication increased his gout, his stomach became paralytic, and he died at the age of fifty-eight."

Again, says Governor Sullivan, "My own brother, the active General Sullivan, began early in life to take snuff. It injured essentially a fine voice which he possessed as a public speaker. When he was an officer in the American army, he carried his snuff loose in his pocket. He said he did this because the opening of a snuff-box in the field of review, or on the field of battle, was inconvenient. At times he had violent pains in the head; the intervals grew shorter and shorter, and the returns more violent, when his sufferings ended in a stroke of palsy, which rendered him insensible to pain, made him helpless and miserable, and lodged him in the grave before he was fifty years of age; and I have no doubt [says the Governor,] but all this sprung from the use of snuff." He adds, "I have known some persons live to old age, in the extravagant use of tobacco; but they bear a small proportion to those who, by the habit of using tobacco, have been swept into the grave in *early* or *middle* life."

Professor Silliman mentions two affecting cases of young men, in the Institution with which he is connected, who were carried to an early grave by tobacco. One of them, he says, entered college with an athletic frame; but he acquired the habit of using tobacco, and would sit and smoke by the hour together. His friends tried to persuade him to quit the practice; but he loved his lust, and would have it, live or die: the consequence was, he went down to the grave, a suicide.

One of the German periodicals says, the chief German physiologists compute, that of twenty deaths of men between eighteen and twenty-five, ten, that is, one half, originate in the waste of the constitution by smoking. They declare, also, with much truth, that tobacco burns out the *blood*, the *teeth*, the *eyes*, and the *brain*.

To this unequivocal testimony, which is confirmed by the observation of every intelligent person who has turned his attention to this matter, much more might be added; but it is unnecessary. How large a proportion of the twenty thousand deaths—reckoning one death to a hundred souls—which occur annually, among the two millions of tobacco consumers in this country, are to be charged to the use of this deadly narcotic, I am unable definitely to determine. If we suppose one quarter of these deaths to be caused by tobacco, it will give us the number of five thousand. Five thousand deaths in these United States, every year from the use of tobacco! and this is doubtless far below the actual number. Five thousand valuable lives sacrificed in this enlightened land, annually, in the use of a dirty plant, that no living creature, except man and the tobacco worm, will touch, or taste, or handle. Five thousand men and women carried to the grave, yearly, by a poisonous weed, which does *no good*, and which, for filthiness and disgust, scarcely has its parallel in the whole vegetable kingdom. Is there a *Christian*,—is there a *patriot*,—is there a *friend* of humanity,—is there an *individual*, that values his own probationary existence,—who can look at the sweeping mortality which tobacco brings upon the nation, and longer indulge his attachment to his quid, his pipe or his snuff-box? Is there one who will pause and look at this matter, and not resolve that he will, *forthwith, entirely, and forever*, abandon a practice which does so much to people the grave?

I maintain my position,

VII.—From a consideration of the *apologies* of the lovers of tobacco.

I call them *apologies*. They cannot be considered *reasons*. Almost every lover of the dirty weed, feels that he needs an apology.

One will tell us he has a cold, watery stomach, and he thinks that tobacco, by promoting expectoration, relieves the difficulty. Another will tell us he is very much troubled with indigestion, and he thinks tobacco relieves the difficulty; though, in truth, tobacco is the very worst drug he could use to relieve that disease, and is among the primordial causes of inducing it. Another will tell us that he is afflicted with the rising of his food after eating, and he thinks tobacco gives immediate relief; not suspecting, perhaps, that this rising of the food is occasioned by over eating. Another will tell us he has a distressing difficulty in the head, and brain, and he thinks a little good Scotch snuff affords relief; as though filling the pores and cavities of the head, and clogging up the brain, with this dirty stuff, would remove a disease which in most cases it originates.

Others use tobacco to preserve the teeth; and this, though it is a solemn truth, that many a one loses his teeth by smoking and chewing the poisonous plant. Others, again, use tobacco to excite the mind to more vigorous intellectual effort. But when and where do we find great lovers of tobacco great students, and intellectual giants? Dr. Rush says, "I suspect tobacco is oftener used for the *want* of ideas, than to excite them." There are some whose apology for using tobacco is, that it guards them against the power of contagious diseases. But Dr. Rees affirms that tobacco does not contain an antidote against contagion, and that, in general, it has no antiseptic power; and is therefore of no special use. There is another class, still, who use tobacco because it soothes the irksomeness of life. They fear solitude; and to prevent self-examination, and to while away their probation time, they fly to the *pipe*, *quid*, and *snuff-box*; and soon, by an easy transition, to the wine-glass and brandy-bottle.

These are the *usual apologies* of the devotees of tobacco. And what do they amount to? In truth, the common opinion that tobacco is good for the head-ache, — weak eyes, — cold and watery stomachs, — the preservation of the teeth, — and the like, is sheer delusion. Let every man and woman, who would live long, and usefully, and happily, awake from this delusion; and let no one, as he values health, life, and salvation, *taste*, *touch*, or *handle*, the filthy poison.

I maintain my position,

VIII, AND LASTLY — From a consideration of the *eternal ruin* which tobacco occasions. On this point, a word or two only, will suffice. That tobacco carries many a soul down to the pit of eternal woe, is manifest from its connection with drunkenness, and from its inducing disease and death. Every man who dies a drunkard, and every man

who, knowingly and recklessly, brings upon himself disease and death through the influence of tobacco, is a *suicide*. And drunkards and suicides cannot inherit the kingdom of God. How many will at last, ascribe their eternal ruin to alcohol and tobacco, cannot now be told.

That it will be a great multitude, (perhaps a great multitude which no man can number,) we have no reason to doubt.

What then, I ask, *ought to be done*? What *can* be done? What *must* be done? If this poisonous narcotic be of *recent* origin; if it be ruinous to the *health* and *constitution*, and *intellect*, and *public* and *private* morals; if it occasions an amazing *waste of property*, — and a multitude of *deaths*, — and *eternal ruin* to many precious souls; and if it do no good, — and there be no *apology* for using it, which will bear examination; then *something ought to be done*, and it ought to be done *immediately*. And, *only one* thing need be done. And that *can* be done, and it ought to be done. It is this: — *tobacco can be abandoned*. And if moral influence enough can be enlisted, it *will* be abandoned.

TOTAL ABSTINENCE is the only sure remedy. TOTAL ABSTINENCE will deliver us from all the evils which this weed has brought down upon individuals and families, and the nation. Nothing else will do it. And total abstinence can be adopted and practiced. True; in some cases, it may cost an *effort*; but, in every instance, three weeks' perseverance will overcome the habit. Three weeks' *total abstinence*, will disenthral every victim, and give him the prospect of *freedom, plenty, health, and happiness*. And shall this effort be made? A *mighty* effort it must be, to liberate and save this whole nation — and especially our young men and maidens — from the curses of the *quid*, the *pipe*, and the *snuff-box*.

I appeal to my fellow-citizens. I appeal to the *nation*, and the *whole nation*. *Shall* the effort be made?

I appeal to *patriots*. Patriotism forbids the man who loves his country, to shrink from any personal sacrifice, if he can thereby arrest some great national evil. That the use of tobacco is a great national evil, appears from the considerations which have been laid before you. It has been shown that tobacco is weakening the physical and mental energies of this nation, — that it is depraving our morals, and destroying the public conscience, — and that it is causing an amazing waste of property, and health and life. I ask every patriot to look at this portentous evil. Every true patriot, who will examine the length, breadth, and depth of this evil, cannot but feel that it claims his attention. And he will inquire what efforts, what sacrifices, can deliver us from the curses of this narcotic? Tho

answer to this inquiry is an *easy* answer, — the effort is an *easy* effort, — the sacrifice is an *easy* sacrifice. Let every true patriot in our country abstain from the poison, *immediately, entirely, and forever*; and let him use the whole weight of his influence and example to persuade others — and especially the young men and maidens of this republic — to practice entire abstinence; and the work will soon be done. We put the question to every true patriot: *will you do it?*

I appeal to *Christians*. Your religion requires you to abstain from the very appearance of evil. It requires you to deny yourselves, to take up your cross, and to follow Christ through evil, as well as through good report. Is there no appearance of evil, in the use of tobacco? Can the Christian deny himself, and follow Christ, with the quid, or pipe in his mouth, or the contents of the snuff-box in his nose? If Christ himself were here on earth, in this age of action, when six hundred millions of men, for whom he died, are perishing for lack of vision — think you he would waste a single cent of *property*, or a single moment of *time*, or a single ounce of health and mental energy, in the habitual use of this narcotic? Would he *handle, touch, or taste*, the poison? And will *you*, whose names are written in his book, — *you*, who have been bought with his blood, and sanctified through his grace, and made heirs of all the riches of his kingdom, — *you*, whom he requires to be *examples* in all things, — will *you handle, or touch or taste* it? Let every Christian in our country, abstain from this poison, *immediately, entirely, and forever*; and let him use the whole weight of his influence and example, to persuade others to practice *entire abstinence*; and this work of reform will soon be done. We put the question to every true Christian: *will you do it?*

I appeal to the *youth* of both sexes. You are the flower and the hope not only of this nation, but of all nations struggling for freedom. The destinies of this republic are about being placed, under God, in your hands; and inasmuch as all the friends of freedom, everywhere, are looking up to our institutions for light and aid, the destinies of the world will soon rest with a mightier weight of responsibility upon your shoulders, than upon any other generation that has come forth upon the stage of action, for twenty centuries. The importance of sound and enlightened principles — of pure and elevated examples, and independent and decided action in *you*, is above all estimation. You are placed in the moral Thermopylæ of the world. The evils arising from *alcohol* and *tobacco*, which you have it in your power to avert from your country, are more dreadful than the invasion of

Xerxes with his millions. The cause of moral reform, in the use of the latter of these articles, which we urge upon you with deepest and sincerest solicitude, is far more urgent than that in which the Bruti and the Gracchi offered up their lives. Some of you have not yet handled or tasted the fatal drug. Let all such stand firm henceforward, and never yield to the power of custom, temptation and lust. Some of you, on the other hand, have permitted yourselves to become the victims of this drug. Let all such be urged by the voice of patriotism, religion, self-respect, reason, conscience, and duty, to *abstain* from this poison, *immediately, entirely, and forever*. And then every young man, and every young woman, in the republic, shall be free from all the calamities attending the use of this narcotic; and love, and peace, and joy, will run through the land, and flow over the world. We put the question to every youth: *will you do it?*

I appeal to the *friends of temperance*. You have enlisted your energies to expel intoxicating drinks from common use throughout the world. Go on, and prosper. But, as you go, remember, that complete success will not crown your exertions unless you are consistent, — unless you abandon all use of tobacco, the companion and sister of alcohol. As you go forth to the noble work you have undertaken, you will be met at every corner, with the declaration of A. B. and C., *I am ready to abstain from alcohol, when you do from tobacco*, and how effectually will this declaration shut your mouth, and destroy your influence. Be *consistent*. Carry your principles into *all* your evil habits, and a moral potency will be diffused through what you say and do, that nothing can resist. We put the question to every friend of temperance: *will you do it?*

I appeal to American *females*. As mothers, wives and daughters, you have it in your power (without turning aside from your appropriate duties) to put an end to the use of this disgusting weed. The children and youth of this nation, to say nothing of the young men and fathers, are almost exclusively under your control; and may be moulded at your pleasure. You know how *filthy, disgusting, ruinous*, is the practice against which we ask you to set your faces. Only practice ENTIRE ABSTINENCE yourselves, and urge this practice upon all within your reach; and in less than twenty years, this reformation will be completed. We put the question to every mother, wife — daughter: *will you do it?*

I appeal to the *medical* profession. You are the guardians of the health of the republic. You are acquainted with the deadly properties of the drug in question. You can understand the necessity, and

appreciate the importance of reform. You know that *entire abstinence* is urged by paramount considerations. In the work of reform from spirit-drinking, you have acted in a manner that reflects honor upon your profession. In the work of reform now urged upon your notice, we calculate upon your active, hearty co-operation. If you put your hand to this work, by *precept*, and by *example*; if you abstain *entirely*, and *forever*, from all use of this plant, and inculcate entire abstinence, as you have opportunity; the work which now bespeaks your attention, will soon be done. We put the question to every medical man: *will you do it?*

Finally—I appeal to *ministers* of the Gospel. You are stationed on the watch-towers of Zion, as guardians of the public morals. Against every abomination your great Master requires you to cry aloud and spare not; to lift up your voice like a trumpet; to show the people their transgressions, and the house of Jacob their sins. He requires you to be *examples* to the flock, in all things, that, while

“You allure to brighter worlds,”

you “may lead the way.” I ask you to look at the influence of tobacco upon the *health, wealth, morals, and lives* of this republic; and then to decide, as in the fear of God, whether the blood of souls may not be found on your garments, if you do not *abstain* yourselves from all common use of this drug, and warn every man around you to do likewise.* Suffer us to point you to Him who went about doing good, and pleased not himself, and set a pure and perfect example in everything; and also to that early servant of his, who would abstain from things good and lawful, rather than prejudice the interests of Zion. What reception would the Apostles have met, when they went about to enlighten and reform the world, if they had carried with them their *snuff-boxes, pipes, cigars, and pig-tail tobacco*? But a word to the wise is sufficient. Let all who minister in holy things, abstain from this poison, immediately, entirely, and forever; and let them use the whole weight of their influence, and example, to persuade others—and especially our youth—to practice entire abstinence; and this good work will soon be done. We put the question to every minister of Christ: *will you do it?*

* Says a distinguished correspondent—the most efficient officer of one of our benevolent institutions, “Not long since a clergyman called on me as agent for one of the most popular Societies for spreading the knowledge of Christ crucified throughout the world: his breath was intolerable, and the tobacco juice had formed a current from each corner of his mouth downward. I need not describe to you my feelings at this exhibition.”

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MR. FOWLER'S DISQUISITION
ON THE
EVILS OF USING TOBACCO.
